

The Altar of Provision

Week 4 - The Altar (8-11-21)

Gen 22:1-19

I. God's presence = Gods provision

- A. God designed us to need Him, and already had a plan for us to have access to Him.
- B. Provision - Measure taken beforehand to deal with a need. Or A stock of needed materials or supplies.
 - 1. Pro = Before, Vision = to see — God is Jehovah-Jireh, the God Who sees
- C. God provided salvation (unhindered access to His presence) through Jesus, the Messiah Who is called Emmanuel meaning, "God with us."
- D. Romans 8:32 and 2 Peter 1:2 - God is offering us everything that we need! (Himself)

II. Faith AND God's Provision

- A. Everything that we receive from God has to be received in faith.
 - 1. The very act of coming to the altar in order to interact with God has to be done in faith! - Hebrews 11:6
- B. Scott - "To get down the road of prosperity you have to visit the altar of provision."
 - 1. We go to the altar to interact with God - Exchange, Communication, Influence
 - a) Its at the altar, in God's presence that we can hear from God.
 - b) That communication then breads faith in us.
 - (1) Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God - Romans 10:17
 - c) We then can go and live confidently in that faith based on the word of God.
- C. Abraham was the "Father of Faith." Romans 4:16
 - 1. **Communication** - He had heard from God.
 - a) He had a word from God concerning Isaac, and he knew God's character.
 - (1) He knew that God was able to quicken the dead, and called those things that be not as though they were. - Romans 4:17
 - (2) He was operating in faith on a word that God had promised that Isaac was the child of promise. Hebrews 11:17-18
 - 2. **Exchange** - He was willing to sacrifice his son.
 - a) Sometimes we have to lay things down at the altar (even good things) in order to move further "down the road of prosperity."
 - (1) live with your hands open.
 - b) God was wanting to continue to bless Abraham. Abraham proved that his faith was in God and not in Isaac.
 - (1) Abraham had been counted righteous because of his faith toward God, and it needed to stay that way in order for God to continue to bless him and his family.
 - (2) If God asks you to lay something down, bring it in faith! In total confidence that God will provide what you need.
 - 3. **Influence** - Abraham had faith and acted accordingly

- a) God's word influenced Abraham to have faith, and trust God in big ways.
 - (1) How much influence does God have in my life right now?
- b) Go to the altar to receive God's provision, and then go out and use it in faith!

III. Faith IN God's provision

- A. Guard your "supply line" of God's provision. (Protect your altar!)
 - 1. If the altar is where we interact and receive from God, then it is crucial that we don't let anything get between us and the altar.
 - 2. Satan tries to cut off the supply line by attacking communication.
 - a) Temptation of Jesus, Temptation of Adam and Eve
- B. God provides in your faith journey - James 1:2-8
 - 1. Don't let challenges sway your faith - Just because it's hard, that doesn't mean it's not God.
 - a) Paul's trip to Rome - Acts 27:22-25 & 28:3-6
 - 2. Faith that God provides in the trial/test
 - a) The first time God revealed Himself as the God that provides (Jahova-Jireh) was when he asked Abraham to do something hard. In his challenge. In his testing.
 - (1) "...My grace is sufficient for thee..." 2 Corin. 12:9
 - (2) "...think it not strange concerning the fiery trial..." 1 Peter 4:12
 - (3) "...God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able..." 1 Corin. 10:13
 - (4) Psalm 23
 - 3. God provides what you need for your calling
 - a) God calls (Speaks), you hear, and the faith is there.
 - (1) He continues to speak throughout the process, and we need to stay in connection with Him to know where to go.
 - 4. Faith and levels of God's provision is a process